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SECURITY INFORMATION

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NEAR EAST - AFRICA

1. Israel determined to transfer Foreign Ministry to Jerusalem: The Israeli Foreign Minister has indicated to the American Ambassador that Israel has no intention of abandoning the proposed transfer of its Foreign Ministry from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

The Foreign Minister doubted that there would be any advantage in renewing United Nations discussion on the status of Jerusalem. He dismissed Arab opposition to the move as inevitable. (C S/S Tel Aviv 230, 11 Aug 52)

Comment: On 9 July the United States, Britain, France, and Turkey delivered notes to the Israeli Foreign Minister expressing concern over the proposed transfer of the Israeli Foreign Ministry to Jerusalem until after the United Nations had been given an opportunity to reconsider the status of the city.

2. Libya to deny entry to Egyptian political refugees: Libyan Prime Minister Muntasser has instructed that political refugees from Egypt are to be denied entry. The Libyan Government is following developments in Egypt closely and is anxious to avoid any entanglement in Egyptian politics. (C S/S Benghazi 13, 8 Aug 52)

Comment: General Sirry Amer, a Palace favorite and one of the officers at whom the military coup was originally aimed, was reportedly apprehended in Egypt while attempting to reach the Libyan frontier immediately after the coup.

Libya is the only land border available to refugees from Egypt. It is virtually impossible, however, to maintain an effective control on this desert frontier.

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